

List of the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Previously Presented) A method of reducing breast density, comprising administering 4-hydroxy tamoxifen percutaneously to a patient having class III or class IV dense breast composition.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said dense breast tissue is diffuse.
3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said dense breast tissue is nodular.
4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is in a vehicle containing a penetration enhancer.
5. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is a racemic blend of *trans* and *cis* isomers.
6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is a *trans* isomer.
7. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein greater than about 0.5 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is administered per day.
8. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein greater than about 0.75 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is administered per day.
9. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein greater than about 1.0 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is administered per day.
10. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is formulated in a hydroalcoholic gel.
11. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein said hydroalcoholic gel comprises ethyl alcohol, isopropyl myristate, and hydroxypropylcellulose.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is formulated in an alcoholic solution.
13. (Withdrawn) A method of diagnosing breast disease, comprising performing mammography on a patient having dense breast composition, wherein said patient has been percutaneously administered 4-hydroxy tamoxifen.
14. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is in a vehicle containing a penetration enhancer.
15. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is a racemic blend of *trans* and *cis* isomers.
16. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is a *trans* isomer.
17. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, wherein greater than about 0.5 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen has been administered per day.
18. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, wherein greater than about 0.75 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen has been administered per day.
19. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, wherein greater than about 1.0 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen has been administered per day.
20. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is formulated in a hydroalcoholic gel.
21. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 20, wherein said hydroalcoholic gel comprises ethyl alcohol, isopropyl myristate, and hydroxypropylcellulose.
22. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, wherein said patient has class III or class IV dense breast composition.